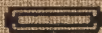


*State Council of Education.*

A short description of  
EXPERIMENTAL SCHOOLS  
AND  
SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTES OF  
PEDAGOGICAL RESEARCH  
of Moscow  
under the People's Commissariat  
of Education.



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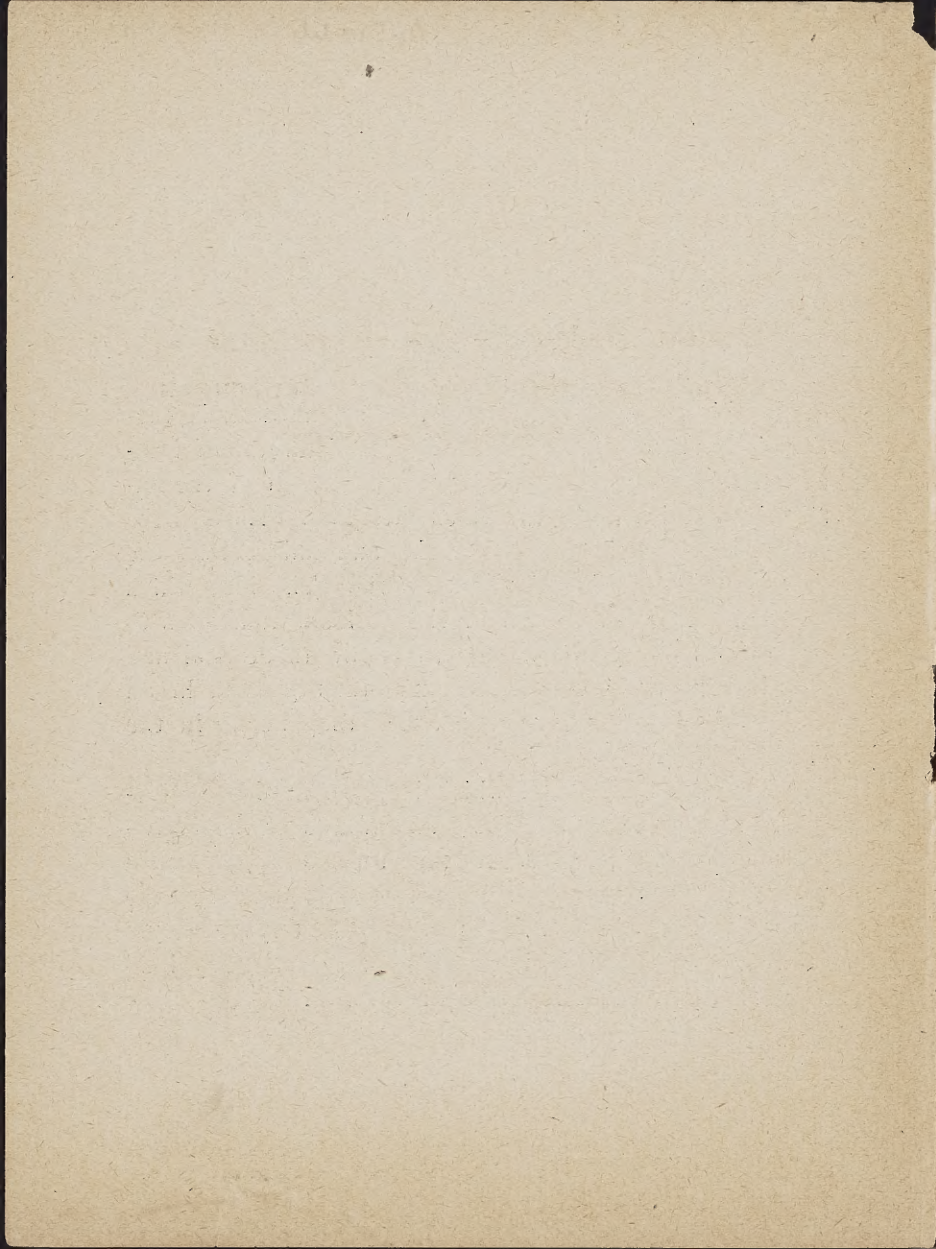
## P R E F A C E.

In this short guidebook to the scientific and practical institutions of the People's Commissariat of Education there are included by no means all of the institutions which deserve serious attention. Those have been selected which most clearly and fully reflect the new epoch of education in Russia. The idea which directed the organisation of these institutions was to combine in one common process both theoretical and practical work in education and thus give to broad circles of educators the assistance they need in the creation of the New School.

The brief information which is given in this guidebook states the main objects and forms of the activities of these institutions. A more serious acquaintance with them can result from personal impressions only for which there is no substitute. In case anyone should desire more detailed information regarding any kind of work further material may be secured.

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## I.

### A short review of the work done by model institutions of the department for social education.

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#### THE FIRST EXPERIMENTAL STATION.

Scientific Pedagogical Laboratory.

This Pedagogical work began 15 years ago. The purpose of the organization is to study the Pedagogical development and correlated questions, then to build a school in conformity with the results. As a basis work was begun with the teachers, a detailed and continuous account of this work being kept, thus making every effort to raise the standard of their scientific and pedagogical training. The station has its headquarters in Moscow; a museum, where, scientific analysis is made of all this material; a kindergarten, a primary school, "Children's Home", and children's labor colony. At Kaluga Gubernia the station carries on its work within a district including several villages. There they have a permanent colony, 15 primary schools and one high school.

#### THE SECOND EXPERIMENTAL STATION.

A network of schools serving in an industrial district wherein only one product is turned out.



At the Shatur Electric Station there are two manufacturing villages, summer villages for season labourers. The population of the villages in the vicinity are connected with this station. It is the aim of this station to furnish all the educational requirements of the population. In order to do this it has one high school, nine primary schools, a kindergarten and a number of other institutions for various educational purposes. They have also a children's home in Moscow. They are to open several new kindergartens. The foundation of the course of study, which includes the study of the production of peat and electricity as well as other productions in the surrounding district, is formulated with all of the teachers.

#### COLONIES NAMED IN HONOR OF A. LUNACHARSKY.

An experiment in social education, carried on along Communist lines, with a group of children at the Government's expense.

The ages of the children in these experimental groups range from four years of age to high school age. The children are placed in special colonies (homes) according to their ages. The children of kindergarten age are placed in the villages; the others in the cities (in summer—in the suburbs). The students of the combined schools (seven year courses), and those of the primary grades are taught in their respective homes; the remaining go to a central school, attended also by day scholars. The purpose of the colonies is to cultivate collective habits giving particular attention to the individual dispositions of the children. Great

consideration is given to the aesthetic side of their education.

The colony has work shops und museums.

### THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S TOWN.

This school is an experiment in communistic social education of a group of children whose maintenance is at the expense of the government.

The peculiarity of the experiment is the grouping of children in Children's Houses not according to their ages but according to other qualities: for instance, there is a House of Physically Weak; second, a House for the Incurable; third, a House for Gifted Children and a few houses for normal children. Altogether there are seven Children's Houses in the town (one out of the city), a kindergarten and primary and secondary schools. In the kindergarten and the school besides children from the Children's Houses of the town there are also day pupils. The town has a Communist Group, sport circles and a club.

### THE KRASKOVO-MALOKHOVSKAYA STATION.

This school is an experiment in instruction in the suburban surroundings based on scientific education with rational agriculture. The suburban school which came into existence 12 years ago is a large boarding school and has a kindergarten (for day pupils), a seven-year primary school and a four year secondary school. The school is connected with two year pedagogical courses. The



school has a government farm attached to it. In the primary school special attention is paid to general education. In the secondary school to serious scientific training.

The boarding school is of a family type. It has several winter country estates where the teachers and children live in a Commune.

### THE SCHOOL COMMUNE OF THE PEOPLE'S COMMISSARIAT OF EDUCATION.

This school is an experiment in communistic instruction on an industrial basis. The primary school in the village is connected with the government farm, the secondary school in the city, which is a boarding school, is connected with the work in the factory. The primary school bases its course on the study of the surrounding nature and of agriculture. The secondary, on the study of the factory (the senior group works in the factory). The school has a carpenter shop and a Communist Group. It takes part in the life of the city district.

### RADISHCHEF SCHOOL.

This school is an experiment of a big boarding school on an industrial basis. It is a primary and secondary school and has its own shops. The school has at its disposal a huge building with a park and a Children's Colony (the former cadet camp). The school has various shops: carpenter's, handicraft, mechanical, locksmiths's, bookbinder's, shoemaker's, sewing and a printing office. There are fully equipped cabinets for physics and natu-



ral sciences. The course covers seven years. Some children are directed to special handicraft groups. The summer colony has an experimental garden, field and hives.

### THE SCHOOL OF LABOR EDUCATION.

This is an industrial school of activity of primary and secondary education (the latter is yet incomplete). The school is a part of the House of Labor Youth. The school has shops, carpenter's, locksmith's, sewing, bookbinding, printing office, and phototype (not all of the shops are working yet). The school is connected with the factory apprenticeship school and with the Institute of Instructors of Physical Labor. The work in the shops is regarded as a basis of the general educational work. Attention is being paid, to aesthetic education. There is a dramatic circle and courses in plastics.

### THE POTILIKHIN SCHOOL.

This is a suburban school of primary and secondary education based on the methods of study by local districts. The school is attached to a suburb and regards as the basis of its educational work the study of the local life from the economic and the historic point of view.

The majority of the students are the day pupils of this suburb.

## THE BIOLOGICAL STATION OF YOUNG NATURALISTS NAMED IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR TIMIRIAZEFF.

This is a secondary school with a preparatory class based on the methods of investigation in natural sciences.

The Biological Station is an institution of science and investigation and is connected with practical training courses and with a school of secondary education. Only such pupils are admitted to the school as have a pre-requisite of four years education and have a clearly shown interest in natural sciences. They take active and independent part in the work of the station. Besides this work they are carrying on active propaganda for the creation of natural science circles in other schools and unite these circles in a solid organization which holds regular conventions. The school has published works of the young naturalists, it has an experimental garden, also physical and meteorological laboratories.

## HOTKOFF SCHOOL.

This is a school of secondary education for the peasant population of an industrial district. The school is destined to help exclusively the peasant population and admits pupils only from the rural schools. All pupils board and lodge at the school. The school has its own shops and experimental field and a vegetable garden.



## THE SCHOOL AT THE ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION.

This is an industrial seven years school connected with an industrial enterprise. The school serves the needs of the workers and employes of the Electric Transmission and of the Peat Works. The school has its own shops: carpenter, locksmith, electric-technical and a radio class. In the junior classes illustrative manual labor is practiced which further develops into work in the shops.

## THE CENTRAL LIBRARY CHILDREN'S HOUSE.

This Children's House is destined for children of all ages from the pre-school age to the age of graduates of the secondary school. It has an equal number of boys and girls of each age. The children are united in equal age groups. The House has workers in common with the school. The domestic work is based on the principle of club work and is connected with the Children's Library. Both the school and the club have day pupils in attendance.

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## II.

### **A short review of the work done by scientific-pedagogical institutions of the People's Commissariat of Education.**

#### **THE INSTITUTE OF CLUB WORK WITH CHILDREN.**

Established in 1921.

This Institute grew out of the ten years' work of the club, „Children's Corner”.

The institute has the following tasks:

- 1) To elaborate the methods of club work.
- 2) To study the psychology of children's societies and of the laws of the social life of the children.
- 3) To collect and work on materials for club work.
- 4) To train and to unite the club workers.
- 5) To keep in touch with institutions of club work in the provinces as well as abroad.
- 6) To assist the growth of the club net throughout RSFSR by giving counsel and information on the organization of clubs and also by the experience of its original club, „Children's Corner”.

The „Children's Corner” has been conducting club work with proletarian children since 1912 on a mass scale (250 children, boys and girls, from 8 to 16). The „Children's Corner” is struggling against the harmful influence of the street and regards it as its task to develop in the children sound social instincts and habits.

Address:

6 and 9 Jitnaya  
Moscow.



## THE MUSEUM OF CHILDREN'S TOYS.

Established in 1918.

The museum regards as its tasks the following: 1, the education of the creative instincts of children; 2, the assistance toward good organization of the toy industry; 3, the study of the reflection of life and history in a toy.

The toys in the museum are classified according to subjects: the reflection of life, history and religion in a toy, people's creation in a toy, foreign toys, from a toy to knowledge, the reflection of militarism in a toy, etc.

A Faculty of scientific appliances and artistic toys is connected with the museum which is training instructors for the peasants handicraft industry (Kustarny industry).

During the last fiscal year the museum was visited by 34.000 people out of whom 8 % were adults and the rest, children.

Address:

8 Smolensky Boulevard  
Moscow.

## INSTITUTE OF CHILDREN'S READING.

Established 1920.

The Institute regards as its task the study of the children's books and of the children readers and also the training of workers in this department.

In the libraries more than 12.000 volumes of children's books, Russian and foreign, modern as

well an antique, are collected. The children's reading room of the Institute serves also as a laboratory for the study of the influence of the book and of story telling on the inner life of the child. The Bureau of Counsel and Information of the Institute collects and works on the material dealing with questions of children's reading. There are Seminars functioning under the Institute: first, of the children's literature (18th and 19th centuries); a dictionary of Russian writers of children's books is being compiled; second, of experimental psychology on questions of children's reading; third, of story telling.

For the study of the influence of the environment on the psychics of the child the Institute carried out an investigation of the family life of children readers in the institute and also an investigation of the life of the children in the street. The result of this work was published in the Educational Herald for 1922.

Address:

Maroseika, Maly Ouspensky 6  
Moscow.

## THE PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE FOR STUDY OF DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

Established 1921.

The task of the Institute is to train teacher-specialists for instruction and training of psychically and physically defective children, intellectually backward, morally defective, blind and deaf mutes.



The course covers four years. In the present year 400 students are studying here. The first two years are devoted to the study of the natural sciences, of the normal man, of pedagogics and sociology. In the third year begins the specialization in the various kinds of study of the defective children. The students take their practical courses in the medical pedagogical children's clinics and other experimental establishments.

A museum relating to defective children is connected with the Institute which consists of a collection of materials on the methods of study of defective children (gifted, capable and incapable), on various kinds of creative work of defective children and on methods of their instruction and education.

Besides the teaching and scientific work the institute is conducting also social work in the form of medical counsels.

Address:

6 Pogodinskaya.  
Moscow.

## THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RHYTHMICAL EDUCATION.

Established in 1919.

The institute is a school of advanced education for teacher-rhythmists. The course of study covers three years. To enter the college it is required to have besides general education musical ability and a sound physique.

The students of the institute work in three directions: first, to improve their general education,

second, to pursue special studies in music (rhythmics, solfeggio, and piano improvisation), and third to study and practice physical culture (gymnastics, active games, and plastics).

The Institute developed great work with children of all ages beginning with the pre-school age. The studies are directed by the leaders of the Institute and the undergraduates. Outside of the walls of the Institute rhythmics has been introduced in seventy five establishments in Moscow, where three thousand children are studying.

Besides the practical work, the Institute pursues also scientific work by investigating special problems connected with the rhythm in life, art and science.

The Institute carries on propaganda of rhythmic education among the broad masses of the people by organizing rhythmic demonstrations.

Address:

Arbat

12 Maly Vlasievsky  
Moscow.

## THE CENTRAL HOUSE OF EDUCATIONAL WORKERS.

Established by Educational Workers Union early  
in 1922.

The object of the institution is to unite the educators and raise their standard.



The work is divided into three sections: school work, work outside of school and work with the technical personnel.

The sections organize, first, lectures, single and in courses; second, seminars and circles on various pedagogical problems (for example the study of society in the school or artistic reading), art and languages.

This work is being conducted by the most prominent educators, workers of the scientific institutes and experimental stations.

The admission to the Central House is free for everybody. A pedagogical library and reading room are at the service of the visitor.

A lecture bureau has been organized under the direction of the Central House which is regulating the lecture work in Moscow. The Central House is publishing the magazine, „The Voice of the Educational Worker“.

An All-Russian Free School Museum which was organized in 1912 is located on the premises of the Central House. The museum is a collection of materials on the study of: first, peculiarities of the pre-school age from the physical side (the results of the work of the Commission of Pre-School Physicians) and, second, methods of pedagogical work in kindergartens (systems of Froebel, Montessori and the modern kindergarten).

Address:

4 Leontievsky  
Moscow.

## THE NATIONAL CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL CULTURE.

Established in 1918 under the People's.  
Commissariat of Health.

The Institute is a school of advanced education; the course covers two years; the summer months, June and July, are devoted, exclusively, to gymnastic exercises, light athletics and studies of sports for the youth. The older students, under the direction of a teacher of the Institute, give lessons to workers in factories and shops.

The institute took part in the organization of a series of short term courses in which, besides the teachers, physicians were also working who were preparing themselves for the future direction of physical culture in the schools.

Under the direction of the Institute an Experimental Station with a nine years course has been established. Physical culture has been introduced into the school in the form of gymnastics, games, excursions, scoutism, bookbinding, carpentry and weaving. In the weaving rooms the children make for themselves various fabrics for napkins, scarfs, bath towels, woven caps, dresses, etc.

Besides instruction and practical work the Institute also conducts scientific work in its hygienic, physiological and anthropometric laboratories: a museum has been organized in connection with the laboratories.

Address:

20 Gorochovskaya.  
Moscow.



## THE CENTRAL HUMANITARIAN PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE.

Established in 1918.

The task of the Institute is to give all kinds of assistance to the teacher to elaborate various subjects, to make up textbooks and to publish books on the teaching of humanitarian sciences. In the Institute work is going on with reference to the study of society, Russian language and literature. Programs are worked out, experiments of teaching in children's institutions are made, the interests of children are investigated and books of popular science and school manuals are reviewed.

Connected with the Institute there is a museum of material for object lessons and of children's work. This museum has three departments, first, sociological (history of culture, agriculture, industry, capitalism, the development of class society, second, Russian (study of literature, story telling, dramatization and club work with children); third art, which acquaints the children with the methods of work with different materials (wood, clay, pewter and paint).

Experiments are made on the work with children in the shop which prepares material for object lessons.

The department of information and instruction collects and works on the experience of the schools of Moscow and the Provinces and is doing the work of information and consultation. Teachers of sociology and literature are grouped around the Institute.

Address:

4 Loubiansky Projezd  
Moscow.

## THE CENTRAL PHYSICAL PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE.

Established in 1918.

The main task of the Institute is to help the teachers of the new school in teaching the physical and mathematical sciences.

The physical department has collections of various apparatus for class demonstrations and of laboratory work. It is necessary to especially point to the museum of self-made appliances where teachers acquaint themselves with the construction of cheap, simplified apparatus that may be reproduced by the efforts of the teachers and the pupils themselves. The bureau of experts estimates the value of the apparatus from the point of view of pedagogical expediency. In the shops of these departments the teachers may study the methods of working on wood, metal, glass and so on. The auditorium for the meetings of the teachers of physics serves simultaneously as an exhibitionary class-room, equipped for the teaching of physics.

In the department of meteorology, chemistry, mathematics and astronomy, exhibitionary collections of apparatus, tables, model and maps are gathered which give a tangible idea of the desirable course of the school work. The astronomical observatory of the Institute is open to all.

The Institute has a museum of historical physics where there are gathered collections of portraits, busts of famous physicists and mathema-



ticians and where there are a few models on the history of physics and also relics of the greatest Russian scientists.

Address.

3 Kitaysky Proyezd.  
Moscow.

## THE CENTRAL POLITECHNIC INSTITUTE.

Established in 1872.

This Institute is the oldest institute of pedagogical importance.

The Collections of the Institute may be divided under following heads:

1. The Technical Dept. gives a picture of mineralogical, mining, metallurgical, mechanical, technological and manufacturing branches of industry.
2. The Agricultural Dept. consists of collections on botany and cattleraising.
3. The Dept. of Applied Zoology consists of collections on commercial hunting, bee raising, cultivation of silk etc.
4. The Dept. of Applied Physics.
5. The Dept. of Technics and Architecture.
6. The Dept. of Ocean and Inland Shipbuilding.
7. The Pedagogical Dept, with collections on physical instruction of children of various nations, on the education of mentally-deficient, blind and deaf-mutes, on school hygiene etc.

The vast collections of the Institute are situated in the halls of a 3-story building. Here are

collected samples of raw materials for each dept., appliances, instruments and machines which are used in their production; and also samples of finished products of the various branches of industry.

The museum presents a complete picture of the scientific principles of various industries and also a panorama of the historic development of the industry. There are interesting sectional models of structures and buildings and some rare examples in the collections.

For the sake of spreading amongst the masses useful information in the sphere of applied sciences the Institute, besides demonstrations of collections arranges popular lectures singly and in series.

Address:

3 Kitaysky Projezd.  
Moscow.





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